

THE ROLE OF THE NATIONAL OPTOMETRIC ADVISER'S ASSOCIATION

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Chair



INDIVIDUAL ADVISERS

- Employed by PCTs or payments agencies
- Varied roles
- Various departments
- Often isolated
- **ADVISERS NOT MANAGERS**





OPTOMETRIC ADVISER'S GROUP

- Late 90's
- Adviser Network
- Funded by member subscription
- Biannual meetings



DRIVING CHANGE

- Liberating the NHS
- Secret Society?
- Not a representative group
- Fit for purpose?



NOAA National Optometric
Advisers Association

www.optometricadvisers.co.uk



NOAA National Optometric
Advisers Association

WOW! NEW & IMPROVED

- New Constitution
- New membership categories
- Clear Aims
- Greater Visibility
- Code of Practice



AIMS

- To support the professional needs of members by:
 - Networking opportunities –biannual conference
 - Sharing best practice
 - Providing Information and Support –via website and forum
 - Recognising development needs and providing opportunities for continual professional development (forum hot topics)



AIMS

- To promote and develop the role of members by:
 - Promoting the role of advisers to others e.g. employers, DH, GP commissioning groups
 - Representing the views of members –we have a collective view
 - Promoting the need for a continuing professional training pathway with appropriate training for Optometric Advisers
 - Supporting the recruitment and appointment of Optometric Advisers
 - Encourage regional groups of Optometric Advisers and promote links with them



AIMS

- To develop and maintain professional standards by:
 - Code of practice
 - Providing peer review, guidance and support
 - Developing a programme of continuing professional training in response to identified needs
 - Share best practice
 - Working with other appropriate agencies as part of a co-ordinated approach to developing good practice e.g. College of optometrists



CODE OF PRACTICE

- Nolan Principles- *integrity, selflessness, objectivity, honesty, accountability, openness, leadership.*
- Be familiar with appropriate legislation
- Keep up to date
- Declare conflicts of interest
- Make decisions based on facts
- Treat others fairly
- Share practice to improve consistency of advice
- Keep records!!



NEXT STEPS

- Improve support and training
- Continue to raise awareness of OA's and NOAA
- Continue to explore links with other bodies where we have common aims
- Improve consistency of advice –
CONVERGENCE! E.g. Contract monitoring



FIND OUT MORE

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